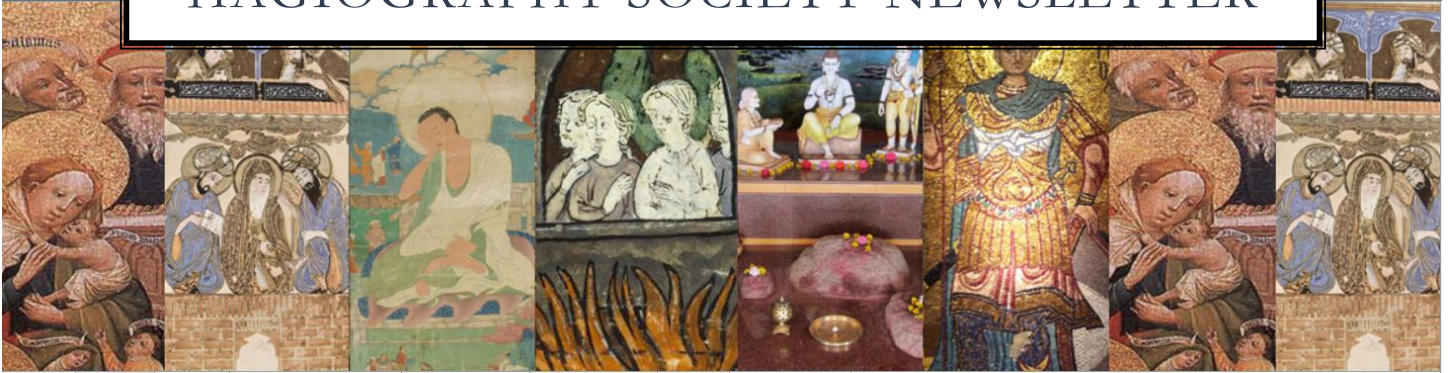


HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

New Initiative: Hagiography Society Best Article Prize

Beginning in 2020, the Hagiography Society is launching a new prize for the best scholarly article or essay in English that contributes to our understanding of holy men and women, hagiography, and/or sanctity in the pre-modern period. Inquiries regarding possible submissions in other languages should be sent to Hagiography Society President Cathy Mooney (mooneyca@bc.edu).

Eligibility: The competition is open to scholars at any stage of their careers. Applicants need to be members of the Hagiography Society at the time of submission. All articles and essays published during the calendar year 2020 will be eligible.

Prize process: Submissions for the 2020 inaugural prize should be sent electronically to Cathy Mooney (see above) by January 31, 2021. The jury of judges will consist of scholars appointed by the Society. It will be presented to the winner in May 2021, along with a monetary award of \$300, at the annual Hagiography Society Business Meeting held at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI.

Contributions: To help fund this new prize, contributions can be sent to the Hagiography

Society Secretary-Treasurer, Amy Ogden (avo2n@virginia.edu).

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Hagiography Society is now on Twitter! Please follow us and share your news on either of our social media accounts:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/102633289878011/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HagiographySoc>

If you would like a conference, call for papers, or new book announced on our social media accounts or featured in the next newsletter, please email the communications officer, Lydia Walker at lwalke39@vols.utk.edu or send a direct message on either social media accounts.

SPONSORED PANELS, ICMS, KALAMAZOO, 2020

The Hagiography Society is sponsoring four panels at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, May 7-10, 2020. Please send an abstract of no more than 300 words, plus a

completed Participant Information Form to the session organizers by Sept 10.

Panel 1: Teaching the Saints (Roundtable)

Hagiography continues to provide a rich body of material for studies of the medieval world across numerous scholarly fields but it also serves as the basis for innovative pedagogical approaches to many topics including religion, history, musicology, and art history. The lives of the saints found across diverse confessional traditions, and the interdependent relationship of holy persons to their communities, evolving over place and time, offers a myriad of educational opportunities from comparative studies, theoretical examinations of concepts of holiness, and micro or macro social-historical approaches. This roundtable seeks to bring together educators who have creatively utilized hagiography in the classroom to share how their specific approaches to teaching the saints have illuminated their students' understanding of the medieval world.

Contact:

Lydia Walker (lydiamarie3@gmail.com)

Panel 2: Witnessing the Canonization Process.

Scholars regularly plumb *vitae* about holy people for insights into medieval religion and culture. Relatively fewer, however, have focused their research principally on the processes of canonization that precede an attempted canonization. This panel of three papers followed by a brief respondent will focus on the processes of canonization. Appropriate topics for the panel include, but are not limited to:

- the specific roles canonization commissioners and notaries played
- how witnesses were chosen
- the extent to which canonization inquests adhered to the evolving canonization rules
- how and why witnesses' testimonies were adapted, omitted or contradicted in later *vitae*
- patterns evident across multiple canonization inquests, and

- how dossiers based on witness testimonies were assembled and forwarded to the curia for further review.

Contact:

Cathy Mooney (mooneyca@bc.edu)

Panel 3: Sainly Wounds. Saints are inextricably linked with healing and healing miracles. Often, these miracles involve some type of wound. Wounds can be inflicted upon the saint him/herself, cured by the saint, or even intentionally caused by the saint. This session seeks to address this discussion of saintly wounds as a way to read hagiography, saints in context, and what saintly bodies can do. This panel aims for interdisciplinary and intersectional discussions, encouraging submission by those working in a wide variety of theoretical fields. Possible questions include, but are not limited to:

- What is the relationship between sainthood and physicality and/or physicality and the divine?
- What is the role of disability, gender, and/or race?
- What role does performance, spectacle, and/or audience play?
- What limits, transgressions, or paradoxes do wounded bodies illuminate?
- What does the saint's wound(s) reveal about attitudes toward the body?

Contact:

Stephanie Grace Petinos

(stephanie.grace.petinos@gmail.com)

Panel 4: Saints and Animals. Power over the animals has been a characteristic of saints from their beginnings in the Early Church. This session operates on the cusp of hagiographical and animal studies. Its intention is to explore how the connection between saints and animals is constructed: the saint as a very special human, rising beyond humanity, and the animal as a creature, which may or may not have agency or which is a symbol of evil or virtue. Moreover, it

explores the educational value of tales about saints and animals: how were saints, in their connections to animals, portrayed as being models, or, for that matter, how did the animals function in this respect.

Contact:

Mathilde van Dijk (mathilde.van.dijk@rug.nl) by Sept 10.

THE SHERRY L. REAMES GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD

After this year's business meeting, the Hagiography Society is very pleased to announce the increase of the Sherry L. Reames Graduate Student Travel Award for Hagiographical Studies from \$300 to \$500. The award is named in honor of the beloved founder and long-time leader of the Society. The award is to be used toward travel to present at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, held annually at the University of Western Michigan in Kalamazoo, MI. Students enrolled in a graduate program (anywhere in the world) whose paper, on a topic involving hagiography, has been accepted for inclusion in the program of the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, MI, are eligible to apply. The winners will be granted a free two-year membership in Hagiography Society. They are expected to attend the annual Hagiography Society Business Meeting held at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in May, 2020. Please submit the following documents, combined in a single PDF file, by November 1 to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Hagiography Society (Amy Ogden, avo2n@virginia.edu):

- a current curriculum vitae
- the abstract for the accepted paper, identifying the panel on which it will be presented
- a cover letter, addressing the following questions:
 - How does this paper fit into your scholarly trajectory?

- Have you presented at a scholarly conference before?
- Have you received other funding for travel (this paper or others)?

Successful applicants will be informed of the results by December 15.

FRIENDS OF THE BOLLANDISTS

For some four centuries, the Bollandist Society has been collecting saints' vitae and related materials to further critical scholarship in the field of hagiography. Their vast library and team of experts in Brussels continue to facilitate foundational work in hagiography, especially via the famed *Acta Sanctorum*, not to mention their ongoing *Analecta Bollandiana*, *Subsidia hagiographica* and *Tabularium hagiographicum* series. However, the future of their research center is in serious need of financial support. Your help is needed.

Please visit:

<https://www.bollandistes.org/support-us/>

Inquiries can be directed to Irini de Saint Sernin at saintsernin@bollandistes.be

HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY BOOK SERIES: SANCTITY IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

The impact of the Hagiography Society's book series continues to grow, along with its reputation for high quality publications and quick turn arounds for authors. The most recent additions to our books series are *New Saints in Late-Medieval Venice, 1200-1500: A Typological Study*, by Karen McCluskey (Routledge, 2019); and *Saints as Intercrossers between the Wealthy and the Divine: Art and Hagiography among the Medieval Merchant Classes*, edited by Emily Kelley and Cynthia Turner Camp (Routledge, 2019).

The series, "Sanctity in Global Perspective," is dedicated to exploring the concept of sanctity in literary, artistic, ideational, and sociohistorical dimensions. It is open to all areas of scholarship, without restriction as to religious traditions or time periods. Please see https://www.hagiographsociety.org/?page_id=80 for further information.

OTHER CALLS FOR PAPERS

Sarasota, Florida, 12–14 March, 2020. The twenty-second biennial New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies will take place 12–14 March 2020 in Sarasota, Florida. The program committee invites 250-word abstracts of proposed twenty-minute papers on topics in European and Mediterranean history, literature, art, music and religion from the fourth to the seventeenth centuries. Interdisciplinary work is particularly appropriate to the conference's broad historical and disciplinary scope. Planned sessions are also welcome. The deadline for all abstracts is 15 September, 2019. See <http://www.newcollegeconference.org/cfp> for submission guidelines.

Sewanee, TN, 17-18 April, 2020. The Sewanee Medieval Colloquium invites papers engaging with the theme "Privilege and Position" in global medieval cultures. Possibilities might include the histories of ecclesiastical or royal hierarchy, the production of artistic forms, analysis of international trade, the literature of class, status, or caste identity, the structures of visual or musical composition, ordering of public space, and popular medievalism, but we are open to many variations on the general theme. Papers can touch upon any aspect of the general theme, and we encourage papers from medievalists of any discipline and any geographic area. Scholars can apply to the general call, or to specific sub-themes (posted below). We accept papers from anyone either with a Ph.D. or in the process of gaining a doctorate. A group of

people may also submit an entire panel; please include a rationale for the panel, and CVs for all involved.

All papers, including those for specific sub-themes, should be submitted through our website or via e-mail (medievalcolloquium@sewanee.edu) by November 1, 2019. If you are applying to a specific sub-theme, please indicate in the "theme" section of the form, or in the subject of your e-mail. Any paper designated for a sub-theme that is not chosen by the sub-theme's organizers will still be considered in the general call.

Financial aid is available at:

<http://medievalcolloquium.sewanee.edu/confERENCE/financialaid/> .

The full list of sub-themes can be found at:

<http://medievalcolloquium.sewanee.edu/>

ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, 7-10 May 2020, Session: Channeling Relations in Medieval England and France. Universities often separate into departments based on geographic regions as seen in the designations of "English" and "French." Yet for medieval studies, these two regions were not completely separate entities, but deeply entwined with culture, land, and even leadership frequently changing hands or uniting them together. Based on the 2018 conference of the same name and in the spirit of the IMC theme "Borders", this panel aims to bring together scholars of English and French—as well as other disciplines—to show how their work necessarily crosses the boundaries between these two fields. Possibilities include, but are certainly not limited to:

- A text (or group of texts) that circulated in both England and France (and/ or elsewhere)
- English and French texts with a shared history, source, and/or tradition
- An author that composed in English and French; crossed the Channel; and/or whose work influenced the other side of the Channel
- An event viewed on either/both sides of the Channel

- Individuals, groups, institutions/ organizations that crossed the Channel
- How this division within European literatures is symptomatic of larger problems in the university structure
- How connecting these two countries could reflect how Christian Europe set itself against a racialized East

Please submit abstracts (250 words) to: Stephanie Grace-Petinos

(Stephanie.Grace.Petinos@gmail.com) by 15 Sept., 2020.

IMC, Leeds, England, 6-9 July 6-9 2020, Session: The Borders of Hagiography.

Hagiography is often seen as a central feature of medieval Christian literary culture. This session seeks to explore the borders of and within hagiography to provide a more nuanced perspective on a genre that can be unfairly regarded as rarefied and monolithic. Far from being a derivative literary genre, the borders within and around hagiography can provide a rich source of information regarding medieval perspectives on genre, religion and culture. Topics can include but are not restricted to:

- The borders of genre: what happens when hagiography crosses into other genres, or when other genres cross into hagiography?
- The borders of sanctity: the desacralisation of saints and the sanctification of non-saints.
- The borders of the page: marginalia and glosses in hagiographic manuscripts.
- The borders of narrative: saints as peripheral characters in non-hagiographical texts.
- Conceptual borders within hagiography: saints who are on the borders of categorising systems such as gender and “the human”.
- The borders of Christendom: the reception of hagiography in regions on the edges of what was considered the Christian world.
- Crossing borders: linguistic and cultural translations of hagiographic texts.

Please send abstracts of no more than 100 words to James McIntosh and Kathryn Haley-Halinski at jm827@cam.ac.uk by 10 September 2019.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

University of Notre Dame, IN, 20-21 September, 2019. The fifty-eighth annual meeting of the Midwest Medieval History Conference will be on the theme of “Medieval Religions.” The conference will begin on Friday afternoon with graduate papers and a keynote by Anne E. Lester, John W. Baldwin and Jenny Jochens Associate Professor of Medieval History at Johns Hopkins University. The remainder of Friday’s and Saturday’s program will feature scholarly papers on all aspects of medieval history, especially those related to this year’s theme: Medieval Religion(s), and an exhibit of manuscripts. Queries regarding organization may be sent to the conference organizer, Daniel Hobbins, at dhobbins@nd.edu.

Cambridge, England, 26-27 September, 2019. *Vitae Sanctorum Cambriae*, Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, Cambridge University. This conference presents the research findings of the AHRC funded project *Vitae Sanctorum Cambriae*, on the Latin lives of medieval Welsh saints. Papers explore both the specifics of the lives and also how these new findings might impact on our understanding of the hagiography of the neighbouring countries and cultures. Tickets: £25, (concessions/students £20)

BOOK ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brown, Jennifer N. *Fruit of the Orchard : Reading Catherine of Siena in Late Medieval and Early Modern England*. Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 2019.